

FACE NO FACE

VSF is pleased to present *FACE NO FACE*, Anna Sew Hoy's second solo show with the gallery.

FACE NO FACE explores the beauty and horror of veils lifted. Each sculpture contains its own empty space manifesting a shocking void, an open closet in the dark, or a wide-open mouth. The works take as their starting point Sew Hoy's public sculpture *Look-See* recently installed in West Hollywood. Like *Look-See* these works are coil-built stoneware installed outdoors. However, *Look-See* has a mirror-face, which reflects the surrounding park. These new works are often not finished with a mirror so we can enter their strange rooms. A few works in the Courtyard do away with the room, and are only windows to look through or arms holding empty space.

In the Project Gallery Sew Hoy creates a bedroom containing objects in states of undress. Here is a language of lines where the extruded coil of clay forms a symbol. On the wall are a series of loose knots, pictograms of different anatomies. Denim sleeves wrap various sections to create a wordless sentence or different dress options. A coil-built hat rests on the floor beside a flayed and filleted pair of jeans.

In *FACE NO FACE* a single form is made again and again until a specific body comes into focus. Creation is not originality but seriality. One thing comes from another; traits are passed. With each repetition something new is attempted, pushing the process along. Time loops as you walk between versions of the same shape. Sew Hoy's sculptures ask: what is this space created over and over? There is a viewfinder that frames a passing elbow and then just the ground below. The bottomless space in an empty hat is a lost trail. It is a black hole where air is compressed and dense. There are cathedral spaces that could be the inside of your head. Each clay body is a planet, and their gravity pulls the viewer through the universe.